

Chairman Powell and the FCC:

I am requesting an official, public hearing in my home state. The lack of public input into the regulatory process of the PUBLIC airwaves concerns me greatly. The industry consolidation of the past few years is producing less and less choice in programming and is causing advertising rates to skyrocket in markets where a few corporations own the vast majority of media outlets. This effectively blocks all but the wealthy, powerful few from access to the airwaves. Small business owners can't afford to advertise and minority interests are ignored as these megamedia empires strive for only one thing--more and more profit. Isn't an fair, average return on investment enough for a broadcaster (given the clout they wield in the public arena)? Owners of one or two stations just can't compete, even though they are the ones most likely to try new and creative programming and are willing to make a living in broadcasting rather than trying to make a fortune in it. Choice is good. Diverse programming is very good (vis-a-vis XM Radio). A few players in the broadcasting industry is bad for small owners, small advertisers and for ALL listeners. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.